

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 338
By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Jean Smith of Southside Elementary School on her selection as Wilson County's Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jean Smith is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jean Smith of Southside Elementary School has recently been selected as Wilson County's Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher and librarian as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, at this year's Teacher of the Year program, Cumberland University President, Dr. Harvill Eaton, paid a touching tribute to Ms. Smith after a panel of Cumberland University faculty members selected Ms. Smith as this year's top teacher; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith has served with acumen and alacrity as a librarian for twenty-seven exemplary years and as a teacher for twenty-eight years and, during this time, she has sparked the love of reading in numerous children; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jean Smith is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, she truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; her pleasant demeanor and passion for books have opened the world of reading to countless

students, engendering in most a love for the written word that will be passed on to the next generation; and

WHEREAS, Mary Jean Smith truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Ms. Mary Jean Smith of Southside Elementary School on being chosen as Wilson County's Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee as a dedicated librarian and teacher, salute her professional expertise and personal dedication to reading, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.